

Amendments to Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1, 2, 4 and 5. These sheets, which include Figs. 1, 2, 4 and 5, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1, 2, 4 and 5. In Figs. 1 and 2, the labels "Prior Art" were added. In Figs. 4 and 5, element label 11b, which was inadvertently omitted from original Figs. 4 and 5, has been added.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing amendment, claims 7-24 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1-6 are canceled without prejudice. New claims 7-24 are added. No new matter is introduced herein.

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings have been amended to add the label "Prior Art", as requested by the Examiner. In reviewing the drawings, Applicants also noticed that FIG. 2 was missing labels 3' and 6' and FIGs. 4 and 5 were missing label 11b. The replacement drawings submitted herewith address all of these issues. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

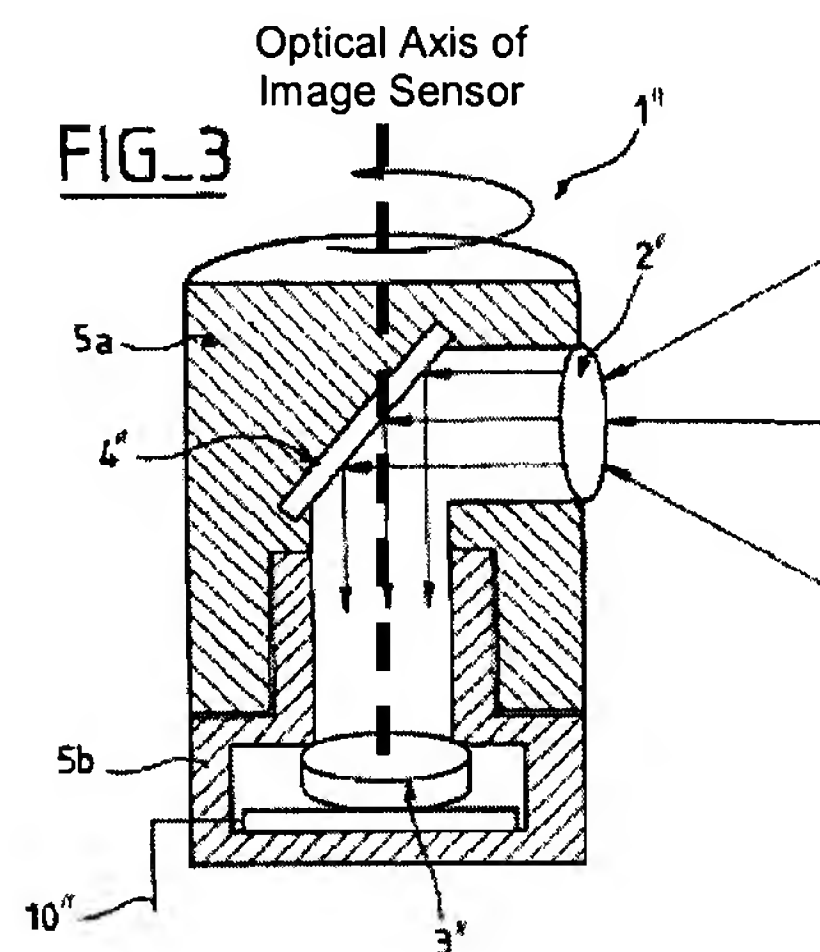
Claims Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Saari et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,532,035). Claims 1-6 have been canceled. However, newly added claims 7-24 are directed toward substantially similar subject matter as canceled claims 1-6. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that that new claims 7-24 are allowable over Saari for at least the reasons set forth below.

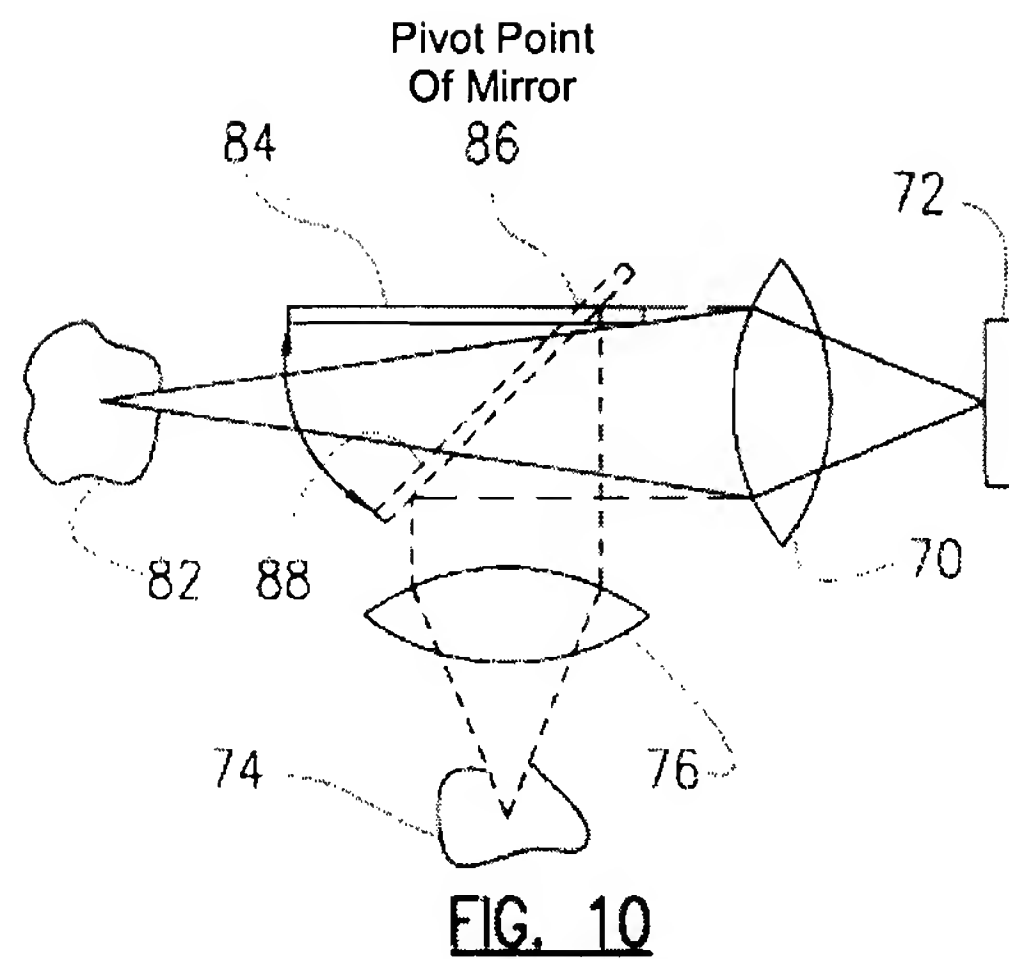
Among other things, Applicants' claim 7 recites "a reflecting member...mounted within the casing...so as to be rotatable about an optical axis of the image sensor." (Emphasis added). This feature may be found, for example, in

Applicants' originally filed specification at page 4, lines 4-5; FIG. 3; and original claim 1.

Applicants' FIG. 3 (reproduced and annotated below) illustrates an example image acquisition system. The illustrated reflecting member 4" rotates about the optical axis of the image sensor 3" (illustrated by the arrow rotating about the dashed line).



By way of contrast, Saari's FIG. 10 (reproduced and annotated below) illustrates the rotation of the mirror 84 about a pivot point 86. The illustrated pivot point 86 is not located on the optical axis of the image sensor 72.



Accordingly, Applicants' claim 7 is allowable over Saari because Saari does not disclose "a reflecting member...mounted within the casing...so as to be rotatable about an optical axis of the image sensor," as required by Applicants' claim 7.

Claim 15 includes features similar to claim 7 and is therefore allowable over Saari for at least the same reasons provided above with respect to claim 7.

Claims 8-14 depend from claim 7, and claims 16-24 depend from claim 15. Thus, claims 8-14 and 16-24 are also allowable over Saari for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 7 and 15.

Based at least on the arguments and amendments set forth above, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1-6 and allowance of claims 7-24 is respectfully requested.

Applicant: Durand et al.
Application No.: 10/583,486

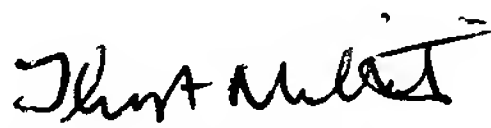
Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephonic interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and request a notice to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorand et al.


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Enclosure